Do Think Tanks Have a Policy Impact?

Seminar organized by the American Information Center U.S. Embassy in Prague

Prague, September 5 – 6, 2005, Prague Woodrow Wilson Center Tržiště 13, Prague 1

Program:

Day I – Think Tanks in Domestic Policy

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome by Ambassador Cabaniss

Panel A: Think Tanks: Their Role in Society and the Inner Workings of their Management

(Moderator: Miroslav Dušek, American Information Center)

12:00 – 13:00	lunch
11:30 – 11:45	discussion
11:00 – 11:30	Břetislav Dančák (IIPS, Czech Republic) – case study: financing a Czech academic think tank
10:45 – 11:00	coffee break
10:30 – 10:45	discussion
10:00 – 10:30	Jiří Schneider (PASS, Czech Republic) – overview of the Czech Republic
9:45 – 10:00	discussion
9:15 – 9:45	James McGann (Foreign Policy Research Institute, USA) – overview

Panel B: Think Tanks and their Policy Impact

(Moderator: Ladislav Mrklas, CEVRO)

13:30 – 14:00	James McGann (Foreign Policy Research Institute, USA) – case study
14:00 – 14:15	discussion
14:15 – 14:45	Petr Mach (CEP, Czech Republic) – case study: flat income tax in the Czech Republic
14:45 – 15:00	discussion
15:00 – 15:15	coffee break
15:15 – 15:45	Grigorij Mesežnikov (IVO, Slovakia) – case study: IVO and Slovak 1998 parliamentary elections
15:45 – 16:00	discussion and wrap up

Day II - Think Tanks in Foreign Policy

Panel A: What Role Think Tanks Play in Foreign Policy in the U.S. and Central Europe (Moderator: Petr Drulák, Institute of International Relations)

12:00 - 13:00	lunch
11:30 – 12:00	discussion
11:00 – 11:30	Martin Bútora (IVO, Slovakia) – overview of Slovakia
10:45 – 11:00	coffee break
10:15 – 10:45	discussion
9:45 – 10:15	Petr Greger (Europlatform, Czech Republic) – overview of the Czech Republic
9:30 – 9:45	discussion
9:00 – 9:30	James McGann - overview

Panel B: Thinks Tanks and Foreign Policy: Case Studies (Moderator: Tomáš Pojar, Advisor to the Deputy Foreign Minister)

13:00 – 14:00	Baker Spring (Heritage Foundation) – case study: implementation of the missile defense concept in U.S. foreign policy
14:00 – 14:30	David Král (Europeum) – case study: Europeum and the Convention of the Future of Europe
14:30 – 15:00	discussion and wrap up